



Resident Questions and Responses to La Sierra Acres MNO (January 2006)

Police:

Resident #1:

What can the neighborhood do about the large number of registered sex offenders living in our neighborhood? How can we (the neighborhood) stay informed?

Anyone that has access to the Internet can access the web site that lists the registered sex offenders, their descriptions, in most cases their photograph, home address and the offense that they committed to be required to be registered under Section 290 of the Penal Code. The web site is www.meganslaw.ca.gov. To protect your children, this is the first step: knowledge. Know who is living in your neighborhood and inform your neighbors. Organize a Neighborhood Watch so that neighbors can help each other to protect their children. The police department will be happy to assist you and attend your meetings.

In the 92505 zip code there are 65 registered sex offenders. Visit the website and see who is in your neighborhood. For more information, contact Riverside Police West Area Commander Lt. Jeff Collopy at (951) 351-6041.

Resident #2:

What is the City doing towards the Gang presence at the local parks in our neighborhood?

The police department has stepped up patrols in our parks and the surrounding neighborhoods. In the WEST Neighborhood Policing Area the Area Commander has identified officers to "adopt" parks and provide special attention to them. These officers will patrol the parks in their units and on foot. Officers will also visit the Community Centers in both Bryant and La Sierra Parks to interact with all youth present. Patrol Officers and members of the Gang Unit will work together to reduce the gang presence in and around our parks.

What is the City doing towards the recent burglaries in the La Sierra Neighborhood?

Officers in the WEST Neighborhood Policing Area constantly review crime trends and patterns for the La Sierra neighborhood. As criminal activity increases patrols are directed into that area. The police department needs the help of the community to reduce residential burglaries. This can be accomplished with strong Neighborhood Watch Groups. In fact, a Neighborhood Watch Meeting was held for your neighborhood

to discuss this very issue. The attendance was great and a lot of good information was exchanged to help in reducing crime. On request, the police department will come to your house and provide a safety inspection to make your home secure. If interested in having your home inspected please call Senior Public Service Representative Alexander at 358-2700.

What is the City doing towards/ is there some law that prohibits the use of mini gas/electric scooters in public streets?

Effective January 1, 2006, all pocket bikes, miniature vehicles, mini choppers are illegal to ride on a roadway, bike path, and trail. California Vehicle Code 21720 prohibits their operation.

Motorized scooters are legal to drive on a roadway providing:

- 1) The driver has a valid driver's license or instructional permit.
- 2) The driver doesn't drive on a roadway with a speed limit over 25 mph, unless within a bicycle lane.
- 3) The driver wears a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet.

Resident #3:

What do you do when I hear gunshots in my neighborhood?

Discharging a firearm in a negligent manner is against the law. Residents are asked to call the Police Department Communications Center at 9-1-1 if they actually see the shooting take place and/or someone is injured due to the shooting. If you just hear the shots please call the non-emergency line at (951) 787-7911. Officers in your neighborhood will be immediately informed of the situation to check the area. The more information you are able to provide such as how many shots were heard and the direction of the shots will assist us in our search of the area.

What is the City doing to reduce the Gang presence at La Sierra Park?

The police department has stepped up patrols in our parks and the surrounding neighborhoods. In the WEST Neighborhood Policing Area the Area Commander has identified officers to "adopt" parks and provide special attention to them. These officers will patrol the parks in their units and on foot. Officers will also visit the Community Centers in both Bryant and La Sierra Parks to interact with all youth present. Patrol Officers and members of the Gang Unit will work together to reduce the gang presence in and around our parks.

Can we get a traffic officer to patrol Cypress Ave, drivers tend to drive faster than the 35 mph speed limit on this street.

West Area motorcycle officers have issued several speeding citations on Cypress since the Mayor's Night Out meeting. This enforcement effort will continue. The department's information radar speed board will also be deployed along Cypress Avenue in the near future.

Resident #4:

Could you please provide the response time figures for the 17 year old male that was shoot at Myra Lynn Park on January 11, 2006? What are the standard response times the City has set? Was their anything out of the ordinary that occurred with the response times tied to this incident?

On January 11, 2005, the police department received a call about the shooting at 4:29 p.m. This information was immediately dispatched to units at 4:30 p.m. The first police unit was on scene at 4:34 p.m. This resulted in a five-minute response time from when the police department was first notified until police officers were on scene to render aid. This was a timely response by the department considering the level of traffic at that time of day.

Riverside City Fire Department Response Times: (La Sierra North Fire Station)

*Dispatched - 1629

*Arrived Staging - 1633

*On-Scene - 1637

*Cleared from Riverside Community Hospital - 1746

AMR Response Times (Received from AMR): (AMR 338)

*Dispatched - 1631

*On-Scene - 1641

*Transporting to Riverside Community Hospital - 1654

-Note - Two Fire Department Paramedics rode in the ambulance to assist with patient care.

*Arrival at Riverside Community Hospital - 1706

Could you please address what the City is doing to make our neighborhood parks safe and to reduce the violence?

The police department has stepped up patrols in our parks and the surrounding neighborhoods. In the WEST Neighborhood Policing Area the Area Commander has identified officers to "adopt" parks and provide special attention to them. These officers will patrol the parks in their units and on foot. Officers will also visit the Community Centers in both Bryant and La Sierra Parks to interact with all youth present. Patrol Officers and members of the Gang Unit will work together to reduce the gang presence in and around our parks.

Planning:

Resident #5:

Is Rancho La Sierra still being planned?

Yes. The Court has recently ruled against the concept of clustering development on the River Ranch property and preserving the La Sierra Hills in perpetuity. However, the property owners are moving forward with the original plan in accordance with the

current Rancho La Sierra Specific Plan. They are also reviewing other development options for both the River Ranch property and the La Sierra Hills.

Public works:

Resident #6:

Are there any plans to widen Mitchell Ave. north of Arlington?

There are no plans for widening Mitchell Avenue northerly of Arlington Avenue, as a City-funded project.

The City's General Plan designates this segment of Mitchell Avenue (which is about ½ mile) as a "local residential" street, requiring two lanes for two-way traffic within a curb separation of 36 feet.

The existing road has sufficient pavement width to accommodate two-way traffic. Also, there is concrete curb and gutter on the west side of the road between Misty Ridge Dr and Valley Drive (about ¼ mile) and on the easterly side from Arlington Avenue to about 600 feet northerly.

If you have further questions, you may call Philip Hannawi at 826-5341.

Code Enforcement:

Resident #7:

What is the City doing to reduce the increasing act of graffiti at our schools and home? Can more be done?

The City is continuing to be active in reducing graffiti levels throughout the City. The City's Graffiti team within the Public Works Department travels around the City and attempts to clean up graffiti in a timely manner. By calling Riverside's call center at (951) 826-5311, neighborhood residents can play a critical role in reporting visible graffiti and enabling the City to act in a timely manner.

Resident #8:

What can the City do regarding illegal dumping and increasing graffiti in the area around Tyler St. and Jurupa.

Code Enforcement has increased their patrol in this area and is currently maintaining patrols on a weekly basis. Officers patrolling this area are taking an active approach in notifying surrounding property owners and the City's Public Works Department.

Development:

Resident #9:

What is the City doing to increase community participation and establish new neighborhood organizing/organizations?

The City of Riverside's Housing and Neighborhoods Division within the Development Department offers neighborhood-organizing support, community leadership training, and advocacy for neighborhoods at city hall. As active partners in the community, residents provide valuable leadership, energy, and commitment in helping the City to maintain and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Programs supporting neighborhood organizing and building community leadership include the annual Neighborhood Leadership Academy and the annual Neighborhood Conference. Staff is available to meet with residents to discuss neighborhood organizing issues as well as provide workshops.

The Riverside Neighborhood Partnership, a community group staffed by the Development Department, is also available to meet with residents and providing mentorship and training on community organizing. Their board includes representatives from all sectors of the community, including La Sierra Acres, as representatives of the neighborhoods. For more information, please call the Housing and Neighborhoods Division, Bruni Mercado, at 826-5195.

Resident #10:

Could you please provide me with a calendar of the CDBG neighborhood meetings, and when will the next meeting be held in the La Sierra region?

CDBG neighborhood meetings are held at various locations throughout the City. Please refer to the calendar attached to this document. If you have any additional questions please contact the City's Housing Division at (951) 826-5879.

Park and Rec:

Resident #11:

How can this neighborhood get a community center at Myra Lynn Park?

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department provides park facilities per standards adopted by Council that are based on State and National standards for the provision of park facilities. The park system consists of essentially three types of parks, each with their own types of typical facilities. The three park categories are:

1. **Regional/Reserve Parks** (e.g. Fairmount Park, Sycamore Canyon). These types of parks are intended to provide regional facilities and serve the entire City, meeting the open space and regional park needs of the community.
2. **Community Parks:** Park sites in this category are typically 25 to 35 acres in size and are intended to serve a population of between 20,000 and 30,000 residents within a

two-mile service radius. Community centers are typically provided within this type of park, since the park size allows sufficient space to provide on-site parking.

3. Neighborhood Parks: Park sites in this category are typically 10 to 12 acres in size and are intended to serve a population of 3,000 to 5,000 residents within a 1/2 mile radius. Neighborhood parks typically do not have on-site parking lots nor community centers, due to the relatively small size of the site.

Myra Linn Park is categorized as a neighborhood park. The existing neighborhood surrounding Myra Linn Park is within the two-mile service radius of three existing community park sites, including Bryant, Hunt and La Sierra Community Parks, and is within less than a mile from La Sierra Park. Moreover, there are no significant barriers such as arterial streets or freeways that would separate this neighborhood from La Sierra Community Park where a community center currently exists. As such, it is considered well served for community centers.

Given the current cost of upwards of \$5 million to provide a typical community center and given the fact that the Bryant Park Community Center is within a mile of this neighborhood, to provide a community center at Myra Linn Park would not be a cost effective use of resources.

Perhaps as an alternative, the department could continue to provide programming through the Mobile Recreation Unit and consideration could be given to utilizing the Mayor's "Lighted School House" program at the Myra Linn School site.

Resident #12:

Is the City planning to extend the horse trails along Cypress Ave?

The adopted City Trails Plan shows a Secondary Trail traveling east - west along Cypress Avenue from Mitchell Avenue to Alhambra Avenue. The alignment then goes north and south on Alhambra before heading west into Norco.

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is currently updating the trail maps to reflect existing conditions and potential links to future trails.

The Mitchell Avenue Trail is a Primary Trail that will run north-south through the city.